

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

WEEK ENDING: August 7, 2005  
RELEASED: August 8, 2005

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## WEATHER



Strong high pressure aloft remained the dominant weather feature over the western United States this week. This resulted in continued hot weather across the inland portions of California. A minor low pressure system brushed the northwest part of the State at the beginning of the week, which allowed temperatures to lower slightly across the Sacramento River Delta region on Tuesday and Wednesday. Temperatures across that area quickly warmed up after the low exited the region. Moist subtropical air made its way northward from Mexico by midweek. This resulted in thunderstorm activity across the southern mountains and deserts starting Wednesday and continuing through the weekend. Some of these thunderstorms produced very heavy rains and prompted several flash flood warnings in the mountains and deserts of the southeastern portions of the State. As the week came to a close, the Four-Corners high pressure remained as strong as ever, and the weekend's temperatures remained above seasonal normals, with the interior valleys posting maximum temperatures over the 100 degree mark Statewide.

## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** was growing well in the hot temperatures. Bloom was ongoing in most **cotton** fields, and bolls were setting in earlier planted fields. Irrigation and treatment for insect pests continued in most **corn** and cotton fields. Field corn that was planted early in the season was being harvested for green chop and stored for silage production. Irrigation continued in fields of **sugar beets** planted late in the season. Harvesting of mature sugar beets was ongoing with good yields reported. Seed **alfalfa** fields were still blooming, while irrigation and insect treatments continued. Irrigation was ongoing in **lettuce** grown for seed. Alfalfa **hay** fields continued to be cut, windrowed, raked, and baled, while other fields were irrigated. **Blackeye bean** fields continued to bloom. **Vinseed** harvest commenced.

## FRUIT CROPS

Preparation for harvest continued in orchards and vineyards. Bartlett and other **pear** harvest was nearing its end, and low yields were noted. Black Mission and Brown Turkey **fig** harvest continued. **Pomegranate** fruit continued to size well, but coloring was slower due to the hot weather. **Grape** clusters continued to mature in most vineyards. Growers were harvesting Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless, Black Emerald, Summer Royal, and Crimson seedless grapes. Stone fruit harvest continued. Harvested stone fruits included Elegant Lady, Prima 23, Prima 20, Snow King, late Babcock, Valley Sweet, Kaweah, August Flame, O'Henry, and Red Giant **peaches**; Friar, Flavorich, Grand Rosa, Royal Diamond, Rosemary, Mariposa, Joanna Red, Simka, Golden, Kelsey, Sierra Princess, and August Flame **plums**; Flavor Grenade **pluots**; August Fire, Arctic Queen, Fire Pearl, Summer Flair, Arctic Blaze, August Snow, August Pearl, Arctic Pride, Red Pearl, Sparkeling Red, and Red Jim **nectarines**. Some growers have reported darkening along the pits in stone fruit, but there does not appear to be more culling due to heat damage than is typical for this time of year. The Valencia **orange** harvest progressed with some re-greening and softening reported on the current crop; Sunburn and fruit drop was noted on the new Valencia crop. **Lemon** harvest has slowed down. Applications of pre-emergent herbicides and fungicides were being made to orange groves. Heat related damage is being observed in some **berry** crops.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** hull split continued in many orchards. The water needs of almond, **pistachio**, and **walnut** groves were being closely assessed by growers in order to help with heat stress. Husk fly and codling moth treatment continued on walnut orchards, which were also sprayed for sunburn.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

The heat wave caused a significant drop in vegetable production, especially on **tomatoes**, **eggplant**, string **beans**, **peppers**, and bitter **melons**. Tomato harvest continued, along with the application of stink bug and aphid treatments. Melon harvest continued. Worm and cucumber beetle treatment was applied to some melon fields. Harvest of **cantaloupe**, eggplant, **gourds**, green, string and bush beans, **honeydew**, **okra**, **peppers**, pickling **cucumbers**, summer **squash**, sweet **corn**, and **zucchini** continued.

## LIVESTOCK

As the hot weather continued, rangeland conditions continued to decline. The fire hazard remained high, and several thousand acres of rangeland have already been burned. Livestock were moved to irrigated pastures. Some producers turned to supplemental feeding as the condition of the rangeland decreased in quality. Hot weather was stressing livestock, and milk production was down. Beekeepers continued to move beehives to summer locations, such as the mountain forests for wild flowers. Bees were active in blooming vinseed fields in the Sacramento Valley.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 08/07/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/07/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/07/05	January 1 - 08/07/05	Week Ending 08/07/05	July 1 - 08/07/05	July 1 - 08/07/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	56	-3	66	49	6	0	0.03	0.16	0.23	37.53
Ukiah	77	3	101	52	866	820	0.00	0.00	0.10	37.96
Santa Rosa	68	1	88	51	469	469	0.00	0.00	0.08	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	63	0	73	54	298	176	0.00	0.05	0.05	19.70
San Jose	72	2	89	60	720	733	0.00	0.01	0.06	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	942	793	0.00	0.00	0.04	14.21
Salinas AP	64	0	77	53	244	160	0.00	0.04	0.06	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	-3	68	51	86	56	0.00	0.01	0.07	18.72
King City	73	4	95	52	773	550	0.00	0.00	0.02	11.44
Paso Robles AP	80	5	106	53	1,032	881	0.00	0.00	0.01	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	85	4	106	59	1,592	1,478	0.00	0.00	0.18	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	84	2	105	61	1,510	1,552	0.00	0.00	0.15	22.29
Chico AFS	82	5	102	60	1,419	1,219	0.00	0.00	0.10	26.32
Marysville	82	3	105	59	1,377	1,466	0.00	0.00	0.09	21.04
Sacramento AP	81	5	102	58	1,200	1,104	0.00	0.00	0.07	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	83	5	105	61	1,418	1,294	0.01	0.14	0.05	13.95
Fresno	88	6	106	69	1,806	1,679	0.00	0.00	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	89	5	106	70	1,848	1,847	0.00	0.00	0.03	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	0	77	53	208	165	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.36
Santa Barbara	66	-1	76	57	315	322	0.00	0.03	0.06	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	506	414	0.00	0.00	0.03	14.38
Los Angeles	72	-3	83	62	1,152	1,256	0.00	0.00	0.03	14.77
Riverside	82	3	100	63	1,376	1,272	0.00	0.00	0.07	9.58
San Diego AP	71	-1	76	66	902	867	0.00	0.01	0.06	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	77	0	100	49	1,190	1,012	0.00	0.00	0.21	5.37
Lancaster	85	4	104	64	1,572	1,422	0.00	0.00	0.13	6.92
Daggett AP	91	2	106	75	2,412	2,392	0.00	0.01	0.52	3.93
Thermal AP	93	2	108	74	3,078	2,966	0.00	0.00	0.27	3.16
Blythe	94	0	108	74	3,282	3,277	0.38	0.38	0.48	3.60
Imperial	94	2	108	81	3,208	3,049	0.13	0.29	0.19	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	--	--	99	43	423	211	0.00	0.00	0.39	12.01
Mt. Shasta	71	3	92	50	447	303	0.00	0.00	0.52	37.02
Blue Canyon	73	4	83	59	546	346	0.00	0.00	0.53	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	93	56	781	629	0.00	0.00	0.63	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (- -) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.